

PRESS RELEASE

Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation: European Furniture industry welcomes European Parliament plenary vote

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The European furniture industry, represented by the European Furniture Industries Confederation (EFIC), welcomes the European Parliament's plenary vote of 12 July on the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) and supports the EU's ambitions to make sustainable products the norm.

EFIC specifically welcomes:

- The approach of ensuring maximum harmonisation in the EU's internal market;
- Providing support to SMEs, including through mechanisms to facilitate compliance with the digital product passport and with conducting life-cycle assessments, as well as sufficient time for SMEs to adjust to future requirements;
- Protecting confidential business information in the product passports and ensuring that any new product passport is linked to that of the original product, to ensure information continuity across the value chain;
- An inclusive and transparent Ecodesign Forum, where all relevant actors are represented, including business associations and standardisation organisations;
- Considering the use of sustainably sourced renewable materials.

While many positive aspects can be observed, the Parliament vote remains a missed opportunity to create a level playing field between new products and second-hand (repaired, refurbished) products or to clarify the definition of substances of concern, which remains too broad.

EFIC looks forward to working closely with EU policymakers and other stakeholders in the journey to the transition to a more circular economy.

EFIC is the European Furniture Industries Confederation, representing over 70% of the total turnover of the European Furniture Industries, a sector employing 1 million people in about 120.000 enterprises across the EU and generating a turnover of over 100 billion Euros. The EFIC membership is composed of 18 national associations, one individual company member and several clusters. Further information can be found on our website: <https://www.efic.eu/>

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